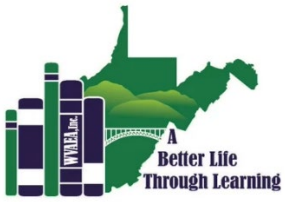

WV Adult Education Annual Business Meeting

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

8:00 AM/Marriott-Charleston

- President Tina White welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

- Treasurer Anne Mezzanotte provided the Treasurer's Report:

    - We currently have $57,002.27 in checking and $17,679.93 in CDs
    - Total Assets of $74,674.20

- Sandra Adkins made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report.
- Jon Doherty seconded the motion.
- All in favor
- Request was made for approval to cover COABE group membership of $1500.00
- Chanda Perry made a motion to approve
- Susan Ellison Second
- All in favor

- Secretary Chanda Perry provided Annual Meeting Minutes for approval from the September 11, 2025 Meeting.
    - Jared Bailey made a motion to approve the minutes.
    - Kimberly Pickens seconded
    - All in favor.

- Committee Reports:
    - 2026 Fall Conference Summary & Membership Update: Kari Geary, Vice President
    - This year we have had 176 to register
    - 13 Exhibitors
    - 159 accept WVAEA Membership
- 2027 Conference Arrangements:
    - We do not have a contract with the Marriott for the 2027 Conference. We will be discussing this in our upcoming Conference Planning Committee meetings.

- 2026 Awards Summary: Tina White: President
- We had a great number of nominations this year. We want to thank our Alumni members for taking the time to review all student nominations and make the hard decision to determine who wins. All student stories are wonderful and it isn't an easy decision to make.
- Alumni Committee: Kim McConnaughy, Executive Director:
- We put together an Alumni committee a few years ago, we have created a Facebook page to keep them updated and active. Diana Flanagan is President. They are involved by reviewing all student nominations and grant reviews. We appreciate everything they do.

- New Business:

- Legislative Representative Status: Kim McConnaughy Executive Director

    - It is time to renew our Liaison Contract for the 2027 Session (Loarie Butcher)/this cost is shared with PST. We plan to renew her contract in our November meeting.

- 2026 Day at the Legislature Summary: Tina White
    - We tabled the event again this year, for the past few years, we have had a table on the same day as CTE programs. There are always a lot of people and great things going on.

- Status of WVAEA Grant Awards: Anne Mezzanotte
    - Grant applications go to Wendy Mick and then she sends approvals to me. Grants dispersed to date are as follows:
    - Hollingsworth – 31 requests = $11,361.00
    - Wilcox – 4 requests = $1850.00
    - Shank – 10 requests = $1235.00
    - Student Support – 1 request = 50.00
    - If you are requesting funds to cover PD credit, we usually send funds directly to Elizabeth Jarrett.

- COABE Update: Jared Bailey, SAAEF Representative
    - We have had a very productive year for advocacy.
    - March 4th Representative Rollin Roberts met with student advocates to hear their stories.
    - Heather Tharp is still working with Senator Capito.
    - All funding was slashed to now we are level funded for the year.
    - NAFTAE (National Association for the Transformation of Adult Education) is the national advocacy organization dedicated to advancing public policy, elevating adult learner and educator voices, and transforming adult education across the United States. Please stay aware of them and what they do.

- Student advocate Dakota continues to share his story. He attended the COABE conference this year. We want to build a student advocate team; we feel they are truly the most influential.
- Heather Tharpe is at Flood the Hill advocating for adult education and meeting with Shelly Moore-Capito and Jim Justice.
- COABE National Conference is April 11-14th 2027 in New Orleans, LA

- 2026 Slate of Nominees and Election Process: Deanna Addis, Board Development Chair
  - Nominations we have received so far are:
  - Anne Mezzanotte – Treasurer
  - Chanda Perry – Secretary
  - Board of Directors:
  - Misty Dawson
  - Lori Kuffner
  - Katelyn Williamson
- John Holmes made a motion to accept
- Sandra Adkins second

- Meetings will be scheduled as needed

- Sandra Adkins made a motion to adjourn

- Chanda Perry second